

nights in Bishop; return via Yosemite. Price includes transportation, hotel, picnic lunches. Hotel accommodations are for double occupancy. No refunds on cancellations after May 30, unless space is resold.

By the middle of the month, a new book authored by an Academy staff member will be on sale at the sales desks. It is titled "THE CARE OF DESERT REPTILES" and is the work of Karl Switak, Supervising Herpetologist, Steinhart Aquarium. The book is fully illustrated in color and retails for \$1.50.

The California Condor Advisory Committee held its bi-annual meeting on April 11 at the Academy. The committee is made up of key figures from many organizations and conservation groups and is concerned with the welfare, protection and enhancement of the Condor — a most endangered wildlife species on the North American continent. Dr. Robert T. Orr represents the Academy.

MEET THE STAFF



LARRY L. ENG joined the Academy July 1, 1972 as a Research Biologist on the Delta-Mendota Canal Biological Survey, a contract project, under the CAS banner, from the Federal Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior. He is mainly concerned with a basic survey of the inhabitants of this 116-mile-long, concrete-lined canal to determine just what animals are involved and the interrelationship between them. It is a two-year project that will keep Larry on the staff through June of next year.

Born in Sandpoint, Idaho, he received his B.S. degree in zoology from the University of Idaho. A curiosity about East Coast and Gulf of Mexico invertebrates found him journeying to the University of Florida where he accumulated a Master's. In 1968 he returned to Idaho and was employed briefly with the Department of Fish and Game as a Biologist Aide. In 1969, he again crossed the U.S. to Milford, Connecticut to be employed as a Fisheries Biologist for the U.S. Bureau of Commercial Fisheries on a project that involved the experimental rearing of clams and oysters under hatchery conditions. Then, in 1970, it was across the continent again to California and U.C. Davis as a laboratory instructor in biology and general and invertebrate zoology. From Davis he came to the Academy and his current assignment. Each two weeks of activity means two days in the field collecting specimens with the balance of time devoted to analyzing what has come to light. Thus far, there have been some most unusual findings, all of which will be published at the project's completion.

Off duty, Larry gets his change of pace with active participation in golf, tennis and handball.

All things considered, he expects to receive his doctorate next year from the University of California with the completion of his thesis titled "Population Dynamics of the Asiatic Clam (*Corbicula manilensis*) in the Delta-Mendota Canal."

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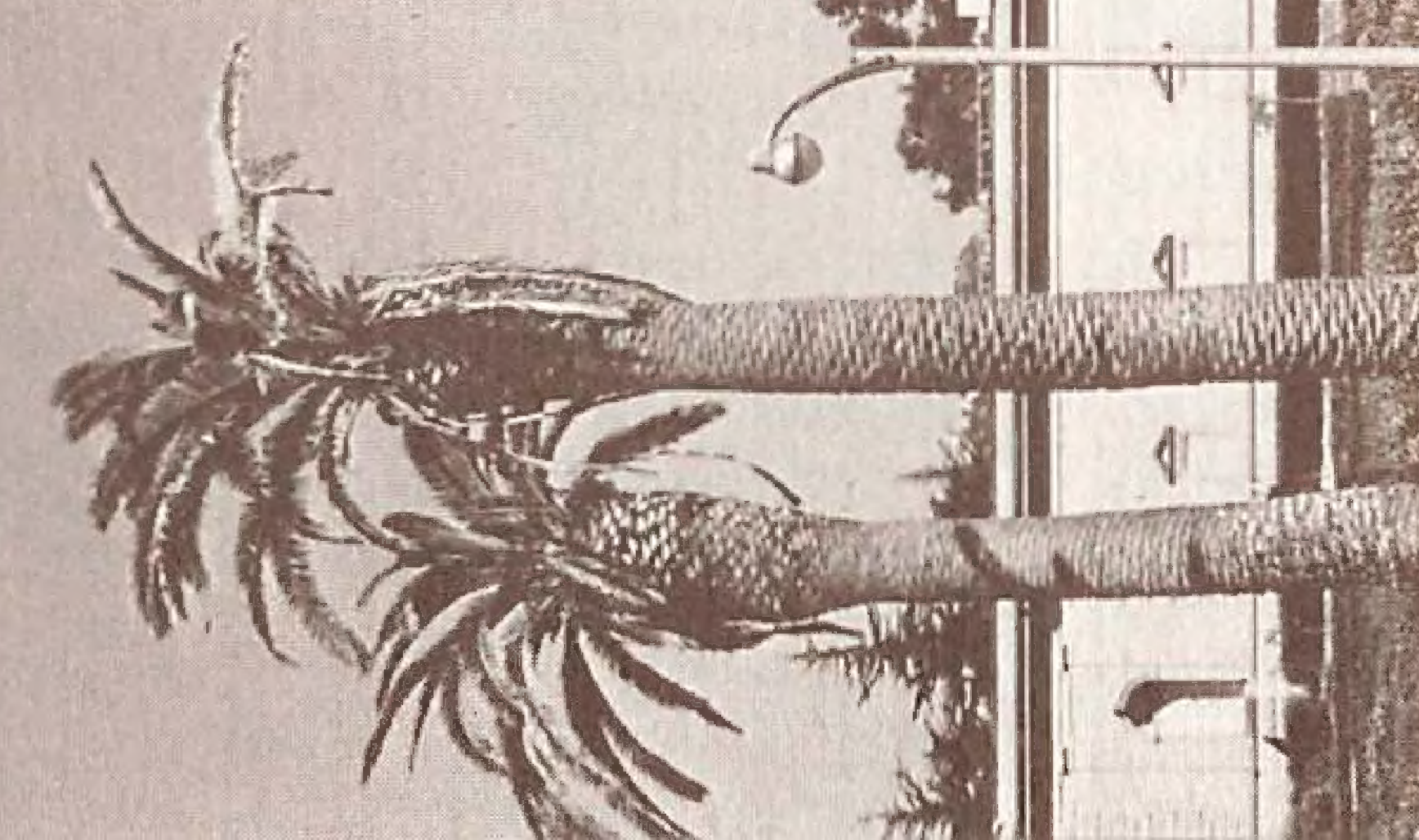
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**ACADEMY
NEWSLETTER**



MAY

AT THE CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

MAY MEETINGS

Dates & Times: Matinee, 2:30 p.m., Wednesday May 9
Evenings, 8:00 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday, May 9-10

Place: May Treat Morrison Auditorium

Speaker: Richard Goodman

Subject: "PLANTS AND MAN IN SAMOA"

Mr. Goodman was received enthusiastically when he first appeared before the membership in February 1970. He has spent seven years in his Samoan studies during which he has made three trips of various duration. He has published a book "Samoa and Samoan Customs" which appeared in New Zealand in March of this year. He is actively involved in the local Samoan community and is the only non-native with a title of *Tuileone* on the California Council of Samoan *Matai*. His photographs have been exhibited in the Bishop Museum of Honolulu, the Lowrie Museum of Anthropology at U.C. Berkeley, and in the Nelson Memorial Library, West Samoa.

He is approximately half-finished with the writing of a second book, acts as an interpreter in Samoan-English English-Samoan in the San Jose Courts, yet has time to pursue a full-time course of art instruction to benefit him additionally on his next trip to the South Seas.

These meetings devoted to the unusual and varied use of plants by the people of the Pacific will be illustrated with his own 35mm color slides.

Three presentations as indicated and your membership card will admit you through the main entrance of Cowell Hall. At the matinee performance you will be asked to show it once again at the auditorium entrance.

MORRISON PLANETARIUM

"SPACESHIP EARTH" continues in the Theatre of the Stars through June 17. What maneuvers are we making on this great natural vehicle? How able are we as a crew? And whither are we bound?

Performances daily at two with evening shows, Wednesday through Sunday, at eight. Extra matinees on Saturdays and Sundays and holidays at 3:30. Closed Monday and Tuesday nights. Admission is one dollar for those 18 and over and half-price for those 17 and under.

SPECIAL EXHIBITS

"WHALES", a major Academy exhibit devoted to these titans of the deep. Whale material includes skeletons, handcrafted models of 27 species, photographs and text — the natural history of the whale with accent on research and conservation. Continues indefinitely in Cowell Hall.

"BIRD AND WHALE SCULPTURE" by Howard Wheatly Allen of Mendocino and Peter Bishop Allen of Stinson Beach. Hohfeld Gallery through the month of June. The items on exhibit are available for purchase (which will benefit the Academy).

"MAN AND NATURE (As interpreted by the Indians of North America)" continues in Lovell White Hall.

News and Notes

It is with real pleasure that we announce the continued recognition and support by the National Science Foundation of the Academy's position in the scientific community. In March came the word that two supportive grants will continue through June 1974 for "Curating the Fish Collection of the California Academy of Sciences" and "Curatorial Support for the Entomology Collection." The two projects began in June of last year under the direction of Dr. Paul H. Arnaud, Jr., Department of Entomology, and Dr. William N. Eschmeyer, Department of Ichthyology, and will remain under their aegis. \$33,600 was awarded to the fishes project and \$44,100 to

the insect research. Every indication was made in the covering letter from the NSF that there will be support for both for three additional years.

This welcome action once again corroborates the evident world importance of the Academy's fish and insect collections.

An Academy publication, "TREES OF THE PANHANDLE", that first appeared in 1965, has been such a continuing success that it now has been reprinted for the fourth time (and modestly updated) in an edition of 5,000 copies. The 57 page pamphlet, generously illustrated, is the work of Dr. Elizabeth McClintock and Miss Virginia Moore. Examine it at one of the Academy sales desks. An unusual bit of local color and information, the book retails for only one dollar.

The Docent Council, ever onward and upward in its dogged devotion to the myriad causes of the CAS, is extending itself even further in its plans for the future. This autumn, beginning September 19, it will offer a comprehensive basic course of training the like of which has never before been offered in its four year history. The expanded curriculum, extending over twenty weekly sessions, will include the animals and ecology of all the dioramas in North American Bird and Mammal Halls and Simson African Hall. The result of this course of instruction (and there is no use in pretending that much effort and study isn't involved) will enable each successfully trained individual to lead interpretive, well-grounded tours past all of the Academy dioramas for the benefit of various student groups and other visitors who wish to partake of this excellent volunteer service.

The instruction will be in the hands of members of the Academy staff who are experts in their field. Student applicants will be interviewed prior to enrollment and Academy membership is a prerequisite. An enrollment fee is required and for those interested, college credit may be earned for an additional sum.

This is a rare opportunity to benefit not only oneself but eventually to share newly-gained knowledge with a host of receptive people. An added boon is that you will be happily involved with a group of enthusiastic, outgoing

persons whose particular brand of enthusiasm and rapprochement is something to experience.

For further information, telephone the Docent Office from nine a.m. until two p.m. Monday through Friday, at 221-5100.

An idle question was posed in the March NEWSLETTER when putting forth a clarion call for volunteers to come to the Department of Exhibits (which they did in generous numbers) to assist in making the botanical items necessary for refurbishing Academy dioramas. The poser: "Just how many blades of grass are there in such a plot (for the mole and gopher display)?" Well, not only were we able to interest people in helping, but one, in particular, had the heart of a statistician. The two square foot plot will need some 23,040 blades to complete the greensward, which just goes to show the painstaking detail involved in such a comparatively small project. And now about those angels on the head of a pin . . .

And apropos volunteers The Picture Collection would welcome a brace of volunteers who would like to work with the ever-growing files of natural history illustrations of various kinds. One would be involved in sorting and filing 35mm transparencies of a variety of subjects but for the most part botanical. Another helper is needed to labor with the general clipping file of natural history subjects. If you can devote some time to this worthwhile project, telephone Johan Kooy at 221-5100, Extension 73.

If the postal service has done properly by us and has the NEWSLETTER in your hands by the date planned, and since it doesn't begin until May 3, there is still time to become involved in the class in "Drawing From Nature" as it was described in the April NL. The class meets on Thursday nights and will continue through June 21, all under the direction of Mr. Howard Hamman. Telephone Ken Lucas, 221-5100, for enrollment information.

TRAVEL NOTE. Space is still available for the members' tour to BRISTLECONE PINES. June 30-July 3. Limit 44. Cost \$90.00. Tour the eastern Sierra by charter bus. Bodie, Travertine Mines, Mono Lake, Bristlecone Pines. Three